

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
November 6, 2008
12:00-2:00 pm
BHRC - 850 E. Foothill Blvd.
Conf Rm F119-120
Rialto, CA 92376

Commissioners present:

Gabriel Gonzales, Bill Swift, Christopher Massa, Jane Godager, David Ford, May Farr, Michael Hill, Tanya Perry, Tom Rivera, Carol Grisotti

Excused absence:

Veatrice Jews and Susan McGee-Stehsel

Absent

Jane Mercer

Guests:

Allan Rawland, Director; Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Mental Health Commission; Beverly Scott, Morongo Basin ARCH; Hope Anderson, MHS Success First; Wayne Henkelmann, T. Posey, Mental Health Court Counselor's Office; Christine Bierdrager, Inland Behavioral Health Services Inc., Linda Joanne Sapienza, S.O.A.R.; Carolyn Bennett, Renee Compton, Pathways to Recovery; Rodolfo Pinon, Casa de San Bernardino; Paula Rutten, Andy Gruchy, Kerry Paysen, Linda Porter, Mariann Ruffolo, Doris Turner, Lauretta Ross, Bob Sudol, Tim DeChenne, Teri Self, Lisa McGinnis, Richard Hernandez, Terri Franklin, Tanya Bratton, Doug Fazekas, Jatin Dalal, Greg Pfau, Ralph Ortiz, Dennis Terrones, DBH; Linda Hart, Tammy DeHesa, Kyler Shafer, Sue Watson, members of the public.

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Chairperson Ford called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the Mental Health Commission November 2008 meeting. Self introductions followed. The agenda for this meeting was approved and the minutes of October 2nd were adopted as written.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Linda Hart would like to ask questions after the Special Presentation.

Sue Watson stated she came here from Orange County as a member of the CA Network of Mental Health Clients Committee to gather all information she can from San Bernardino County who is considered to be the shining star in the State.

Beverly Ary asked why older adults sent to ARMC for treatment are ultimately sent somewhere else? Paula Rutten, Hospital Services, stated that the older adults are generally sent to the Geri Psych Unit at East Valley Hospital in Glendora for safety precautions. ARMC-BHU does not have a specific section for this population. Please contact Paula Martin of ARMC-BHU for further questions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Ford announced that there will be no Mental Health Commission meeting in December due to the Mental Health Commission Annual Recognition Ceremony. The Mental Health Commission meeting for January has been postponed to Thursday, January 8, 2009 due to the New Year's Day Holiday.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Gonzales stated that the Victorville Clubhouse is doing really well.

Commissioner Swift stated that donations and membership are high at the Victorville Clubhouse.

Commissioner Massa was invited by Commissioner McGee-Stehsel to discuss his recovery to the RN students at Cal State.

Commissioner Godager is happy the Holidays are coming.

Commissioner Perry stated that the Big Bear Mental Health Alliance Plan is being considered by DBH.

Commissioner Rivera stated that this is his first meeting as a Commissioner and he is delighted to be here. He was briefly oriented by Commissioners Farr and Grisotti this morning.

Commissioner Farr stated that there was a very large turnout for the NAMI Walk at Diamond Valley Lake. She thanked participants and those who helped make the event such a success.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Rawland thanked Commissioner Rivera who has volunteered to participate with the Departments Latino outreach.

County and State Budget

State- budget crisis is not getting any better. If not for Prop 63 funding the situation would be worse. Unemployment is up to 10% and will erode over the next couple of years. The governor has called a second round of discussion for more budget cuts. FY 08-09 will include:

- \$5.4 million reduction in Realignment as vehicle license fees and sales tax are down
- Managed care allocation is down
- \$2.2 million reduction in Alcohol and Drug programs; it was necessary to cease Perinatal programs in Chino and the high desert, however, we were able to place staff in other areas. The Board of Supervisors priority is public safety; fire, police, etc. Staff salaries will have to be absorbed. The State wants us to absorb labwork and pharmacy costs and has also increased the state hospital rate. Drug and Alcohol programs could be impacted more.

County- FY 07-08 we drew \$31 million out of our trust. Allan commended staff and contractors for resilience to address the crisis both administrative and accounting.

- We were able to identify costs that should have been paid by MHSA
- We're absorbing the Psychiatrist parity increase
- Due to the John Doe II lawsuit every child that enters juvenile hall undergoes a mental evaluation; resulting in increased staffing
- We're absorbing the cost of treating unsponsored clients

- Delayed payment from the State
- Developing tools to link clients to other resources if not seriously mentally ill
- Concentrating on getting seriously mentally ill clients on Medi-Cal
- The County is in a hiring freeze to avoid layoffs
- We will start the transformation process by 1/5/09 creating full service partnerships. The outcomes will be much greater keeping clients out of the hospital.

MHSA

The millionaire tax should not decrease

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Dennis Terrones, Project Manager of the MHSA Capital Facilities Component:
 - Phase I - \$24 million
 - Identify building needs for treatment programs
 - Funding is to be use to construct building or keep buildings up to date. Buildings are to be used for a minimum of 20 years and able to be expanded.
2. Michael Day, Project Manager of the MHSA Technology Component:
 - Increase consumer/family empowerment by providing technology tools
 - Increase administrative information for patient care by replacing old system with an integrated system with ARMC, Public Health and Behavioral Health: **Project RIPLEY**
 - We have computers in the clubhouses and the clinics
 - We want touch screen format kiosks in the Wellness Centers

NEW BUSINESS

Review MHSA Community Services and Supports Program Expenditure Plan Update-FY 08-09 Request for Funds by Lisa McGinnis, MHSA Coordinator

- Requesting \$57 million
- The State gave us guidelines to change (if needed) existing CSS programs and add two new CSS programs for a total of eleven full service partnerships.

Beverly Ary asked if these programs have been cost effective and are we having an impact due to these services. Dr. Harris is working on this data.

OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

Beverly Scott, ARCH in Morongo Basin stated that the Sheriff Department is rousting out homeless prior to the homeless count. Allan referred this to Isaac Jackson, the Homeless Coordinator for the County.

Lynn Neuenswander, Public Information Officer for DBH stated:

- DBH calendar Web page should be available by December 1
- 2009 Consumer Art calendar has gone to print

DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DAC) REPORTS

District 2:

Commissioner Farr stated that the Second District Advisory Committee has had very productive meetings.

District 3:

Commissioner Massa stated that they are organizing and planning; they will then rotate meeting locations within the entire Third District.

District 5:

Moving around the district meeting with other groups/agencies

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

David Ford
Chairman

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Commission